

(b) the number of roads to be strengthened under the programme;

(c) the amount to be spent on these projects; and

(d) the amount that World Bank has agreed to provide for the development of roads in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Seven roads are to be strengthened under this programme.

(c) The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 1100 crores.

(d) The amount to be provided by the World Bank has not been decided.

Cell for Minorities

2536. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of complaints received by the grievances cell for minorities during 1996; and

(b) action taken on them by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) According to the information received from the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Minority Cell was set up in that Ministry in November, 1996. During 1996, it received 32 petitions which have been taken up with the concerned authorities for further action.

Construction of Road

2537. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :
SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Tripura submitted a proposal to the North East Council for the improvement of Ambasa-Bagafa-Belonia road;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the Government have sanctioned the project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Improvement of the road to other District Road standards at an estimated cost of Rs. 30 Crs. has

been included by the NEC as a new scheme for execution during the 9th five year plan subject to approval by the Planning Commission and availability of funds.

Exotic Breeding Bulls

2538. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the exotic breeds being propagated by the Government for improving the milk yield of the cows in India;

(b) the number of exotic breed bulls farms have been set up alongwith their locations;

(c) the number of exotic breeding bulls imported during the last three years;

(d) the countries from where such bulls were imported; and

(e) the average cost of an exotic breeding bull?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Jersey and Holstein Friesian bulls are used for cross-breeding of non-descript cows to improve milk yield.

(b) The Central Cattle Breeding Farm for production of Jersey bulls is at Semiliguda, in Koraput district of Orissa and that for production of Holstein Friesian bulls is at Hessarghatta in Karnataka.

(c) Import of 259 bulls was permitted during the last three years out of which 45 bulls were imported for Central Cattle Breeding Farm, Hessarghatta.

(d) The bulls were imported from Denmark, Australia, the United States of America and Israel.

(e) The average cost of an imported exotic breeding bull works out to approximately Rs. 0.75 lakh.

Voluntary Organisations

2539. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of voluntary organisations with their locations in Assam being aided by the Union Government;

(b) the criteria fixed for providing assistance;

(c) the name of the agency conducting audit of such organisations;

(d) whether the Government are aware that some organisations misutilised funds; and

(e) if so, the action taken so far/proposed to be taken against such organisations?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) Grants-in-aid are sanctioned to the NGOs as per the norms and procedures laid down in the schemes of the Ministry.

(c) Audit of the accounts of the organisations is done by the Chartered Accountants or auditors approved by the Government.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Names of the Voluntary Organisations with their location in Assam

S.No. Name of the voluntary organisations with address

1. Gharmora Model Satra Hills and Plains Cultural Institution, Ward No. 8, PO : North Lakhimpur-787 001.
2. Prantiya Samaj Kalyan Kendra, PO : Kamin-791 121, North Lakhimpur.
3. Ramakrishna Mission, Sevashram, Silchar-4, Cachar (Assam).
4. Ramakrishna Mission Ashram, RK Mission Road, Ulubari, Guwahati- 781007.
5. Indian Council for Child Welfare, Assam State Branch, GN Bordoli Road, Ambari Near Government Emorium, Guwahati, Assam.
6. Indira Red Cross Society, Guwahati, Assam.
7. Bahumukhi Krishi Aru Samaj Kalyan Samiti, Chota Rupahi, Noor Nagar, 10 Herapati, Distt : Nagaon, Assam.
8. Gram Vikas Parishad, VIII : Rangaloor, PO : Jumarapur, Distt: Nagaon, Assam-782 427.
9. M/s. Salitha Puthi, Bhawal Village, Saraighat, Duminichowki Post, Distt: Kamrup, Assam.
10. Asson. for Social Health in India, State Branch, Near Assam Press, MD Road, Silpukhuri, Guwahati, Assam.
11. Jagriti Samthla, Unayan Kendra, PO: Islamgaon, Lakhimpur-787 054.
12. Society for the Promotion of Youth and Masses (SPYM) Guwahati Chapter, Ashram Road (Near Water Tank), Ulubari, Guwahati- 781 007.
13. Remakrishna Mission, Silchar.
14. All India Centre for Urban and Rural Development, Silchar.
15. Assam Anusuchit Jati Parishad, Silchar.
16. Assam Administrative Staff College, Jawahar Nagar, PO: Khanapara, Guwahati-22.

India-Iran Fertilizer Project

2540. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Iran have given their final approval to the fertilizer project to be set up in Irani Qeshm Island, free trade zone;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the companies to whom this contract has been awarded; and

(d) the time by which the production is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) and Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) have jointly explored the possibility of setting up a 7.26 lakh metric tonne per annum urea project at Qeshm Island, Iran in collaboration with Qeshm Free Area Authority (QFAA) of Iran. As per the Feasibility Report, the estimated cost of the project is US \$ 470 million. The buy back responsibility of the Indian partners extends to 60% of the urea production from this fertilizer complex.

(c) and (d) In the absence of an investment decision by the project sponsors, it is not possible to indicate the time by which the Qeshm Fertilizer Project will commence production. The stage of award of the contract for setting up of this facility has not yet been reached.

[Translation]

Fertility in Agriculture

2541. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether ambitious schemes formulated to test the fertility in the agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the schemes are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) Soil testing is one of the most important tools in estimating the fertility of the soils in terms of availability of plant nutrients. In view of this, a scheme has been formulated for implementation during 9th plan for Modernisation of soil testing services. Proposed components of the scheme are :

(i) To modernise the existing soil testing laboratories.